

Graduate Study in the UK – Funding Your Study

Alex Craik (University College London)

Mary Denyer (Marshall Aid Commemoration Commission)

Joey Kirk (University of Glasgow)

Alicia Hayes (UC Berkeley)

Ciaran Moynihan (Imperial College London)

Structure of UK PG Degrees

- 1 year Master's degrees: MA, MSc, MRes
(Although some institutions offer two year taught courses)
- Entry requirements: Bachelor's degree
- 3-4 year Doctoral degrees: PhD
- Entry requirements: Master's degree or equivalent professional experience

Master's degrees

MA/MSc

- Taught (modular) focus from Oct-May/June followed by research projects
- Provides variety of research experience, group work and industry contact
- **Career path:** Very flexible, providing the foundation for specialisation or diversification into a different sector/industry.

MRes

- Fewer taught modules with emphasis on a larger dissertation or an equivalent practice-led research project
- Deeper training in Research Methods
- Greater independence of learning and potential for increased specialisation
- **Career path:** Further research as a research assistant, PhD student or industry

Doctoral degrees

PhD

- Majority of time spent carrying out original research
- Usually 3 years of research, with 6 months for writing up
- Require a thorough understanding of the relevant academic discipline and competence in relevant techniques.
- Work closely with supervisor and research group
- Thesis of up to 100,000 words and a viva voce examination

Career path: Extremely diverse, both within and outside academia. Often followed by further research as Post Doctoral researcher within a university

National Fellowships



- **Fulbright Scholarships**

Fulbright Postgraduate Student Awards - available for academic work in any graduate programme at any recognised UK university. These are for one year.

2 general awards and 42 Partnership Scholarships available, some for specific courses at a UK University and others for any course at a UK University

<http://www.fulbright.org.uk/going-to-the-uk>

- **Marshall Scholarships**

Marshall Scholarships fund study at graduate level at any UK University in any field of study. The Scholarships are for one or two years.

Up to 40 awards offered each year.

<http://www.marshallscholarship.org/>



Marshall Partnership Scholarships

The Marshall Commission partners with 37 British Universities (including all of the Russell Group). However we do not select Scholars for all of our partner institutions every year so this differs to the Fulbright partnership Scholarships where they select a Scholar for each of their partners annually.

Marshall does encourage applicants to consider our partner institutions and there are advantages to choosing a partner, including the possibility of third year funding for students planning on undertaking PhD's.



Marshall Partner Institutes

University of Birmingham
University of Bristol
Corpus Christi College, Oxford
Cardiff University
University of Dundee
(College of Life Sciences) (PhD only)
Durham University
University of East Anglia
University of Edinburgh
University of Exeter
University of Glasgow
Goldsmiths, University of London
Gonville and Caius, Cambridge
Guildhall School of Music and Drama
Imperial College London
Keele University
University of Kent
King's College, Cambridge

King's College London
University of Leeds
University of Liverpool
London School of Economics
and Political Science (LSE)
London School of Hygiene and
Tropical Medicine (LSHTM)
Magdalene College, Cambridge
University of Manchester
New College, Oxford
Newcastle University
University of Nottingham
Nuffield College, Oxford
Oriental College, Oxford
Queen Mary University of
London
Queen's University Belfast
University of Reading

Royal Academy of Music
Royal Holloway
Royal Northern College of Music
(PhD only)
University of Sheffield
Somerville College, Oxford
University of Southampton
University of St Andrew's
St John's College, Cambridge
University of Surrey
University of Sussex
Trinity College, Oxford
University College London (UCL)
University of Warwick
University of York

3rd Year Partners:
University of Oxford



Fulbright Partnership Scholarships

Fulbright in the UK has 44 Postgraduate/Student Awards. The All Disciplines open category is extremely competitive and they can usually only offer 2 grants. Applicants are strongly encouraged to apply for the partner awards.

The partnership agreement is one grant per year for each of the partner awards. Depending on the quality of applicants, willingness of certain partners to offer a second grant, and the Fulbright's capability to accept more grantees, they might offer more than one grant in specific cases. Fulbright sends a Scholar to each Partner institute annually.

Fulbright Partnership Institutions

- Fulbright Anniversary in Europe Award (Migration Studies) *NEW* *2018-19 ONLY*
- All-Disciplines (Open) Award Category
- Aberystwyth University: International Relations
- Bangor University: Celtic Studies, Ocean Sciences, & Creative Writing
- University of Birmingham
- University of Bristol
- Cardiff University
- Durham University
- University of East Anglia
- University of Exeter
- Imperial College London
- John Wood LAMDA Award: Classical Acting
- King's College London
- University of Kent
- Lancaster University
- University of Leeds
- University of Leicester
- University of Liverpool
- London School of Economics
- University of Manchester
- Newcastle University
- Northumbria University: Art & Design
- University of Nottingham
- Queen Mary, University of London
- Queen's University Belfast Award in Legislative Studies (Northern Ireland Assembly)
- University of Reading
- University of Roehampton: Dance
- Royal Holloway, University of London
- Royal Veterinary College, University of London
- University of Sheffield
- SOAS, University of London
- University of Southampton
- University of Sussex
- University of St Andrews: Arts & Humanities
- University of Stirling: Health, Well-being, & Sport
- University of Strathclyde Research Awards
- Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music & Dance
- University College London Award
- University College London Award in Entrepreneurship
- University College London-Institute of Education Award
- UCL Executive Masters in Public Policy Award
- University of Warwick
- University of York

Where to look for PG funding

- www.targetpostgrad.com/funding
- www.topuniversities.com/student-info/student-finance/guide-funding-your-graduate-studies
- www.prospects.ac.uk/funding-postgraduate-study.htm
- www.postgraduatestudentships.co.uk/

Search on:

- Research Council Grants
- Scholarships
- Loans
- Employer Sponsorships
- Disability Related funding (www.misua.org)
- Charitable Foundations

University Funding Schemes

www.ucl.ac.uk/scholarships

<http://www.gla.ac.uk/scholarships/>

www.imperial.ac.uk/study/pg/fees-and-funding/scholarships

Search by :

- PGT / PGR
- prospective / current student
- country of domicile
- department / subject

Look at alumni funding schemes, or discounts for alumni

Don't be afraid to contact Professors and departments directly!

Analysis – Stats (UK)

Source: HESA Student record 2002/03 - 2015/16
©British Council

Sources of funding US students in the UK 2012/13 – 2015/16

Funding Source	PGT		PGR	
	2012/13	2015/16	2012/13	2015/16
UK research councils	5	0	20	25
UK Gov / British Council	10	25	10	15
US/UK industry & commerce	10	10	15	0
Students employer	35	25	10	20
Charitable foundations	95	80	235	70
No fees	105	115	70	35
Other 'Overseas' funding	155	165	90	75
US loan	210	460	55	105
Unknown	220	195	155	130
US Government	265	290	85	95
Provider waiver of support costs	295	465	420	585
No award or financial backing	4195	4245	1170	1035
Total	5655	6145	2415	2280

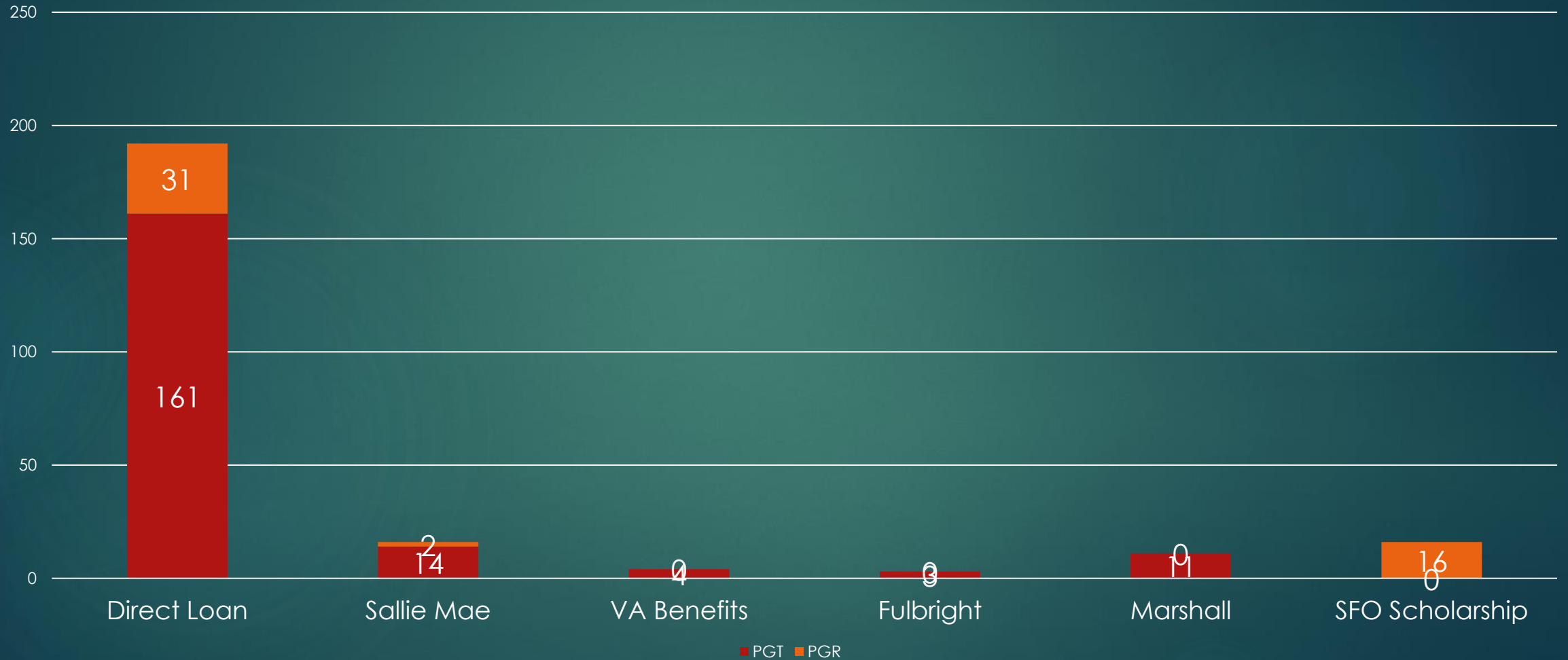
Analysis – Stats (UCL)

Overview

- Records of 242 postgraduate US students at the UCL
- 193 Master's Students and 49 PhD Students
- Results Demonstrate
 - Established funding opportunities are becoming much more competitive, however percentage relying on FAFSA support is falling
 - Very few students are solely reliant on scholarships to fund their study

Analysis – Stats (UCL)

Funding Sources



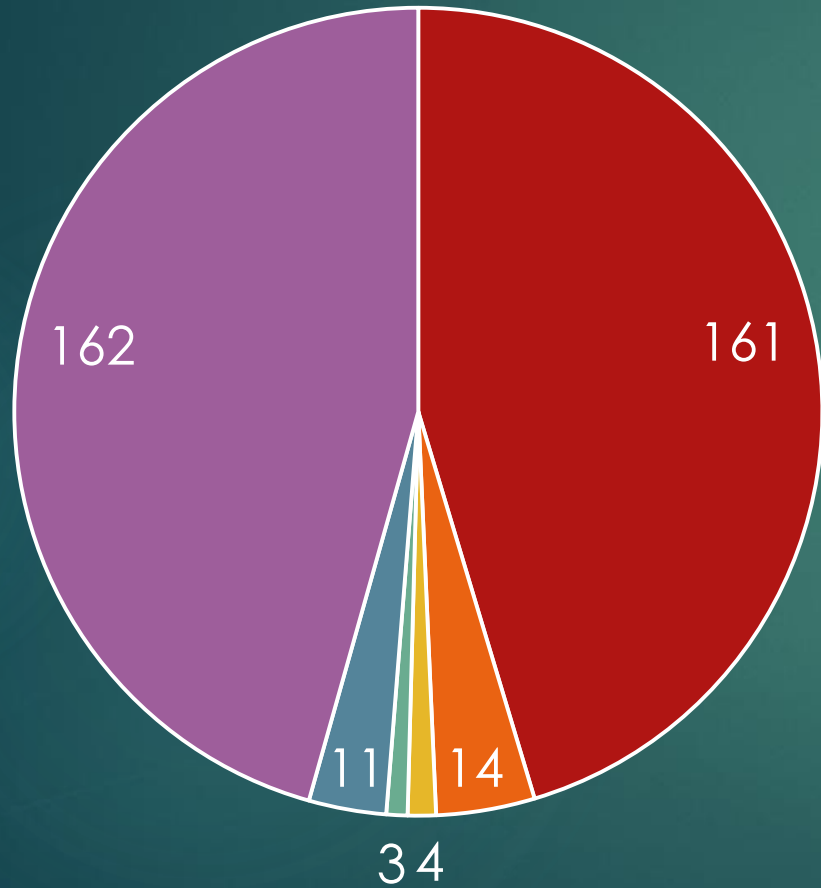
Analysis – Stats (UCL)

Funding Sources



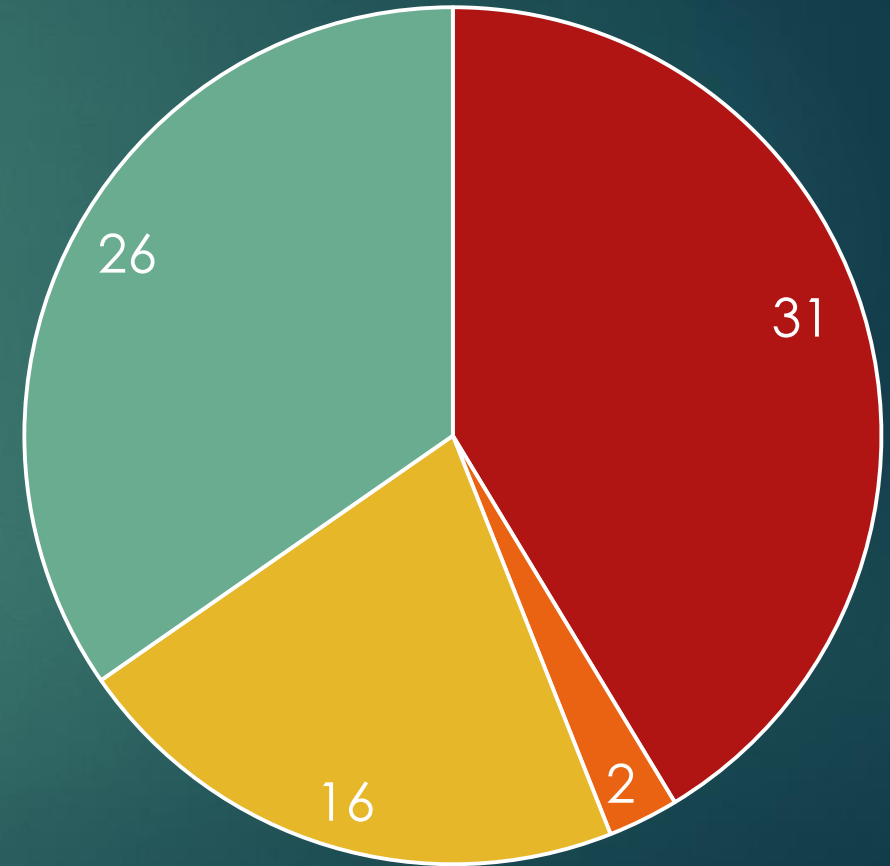
Analysis – Stats (UCL)

Masters



■ Direct Loan ■ Sallie Mae ■ VA Benefits
■ Fulbright ■ Marshall ■ Unknown

PhD



■ Direct Loan ■ Sallie Mae ■ SFO Scholarship ■ Unknown

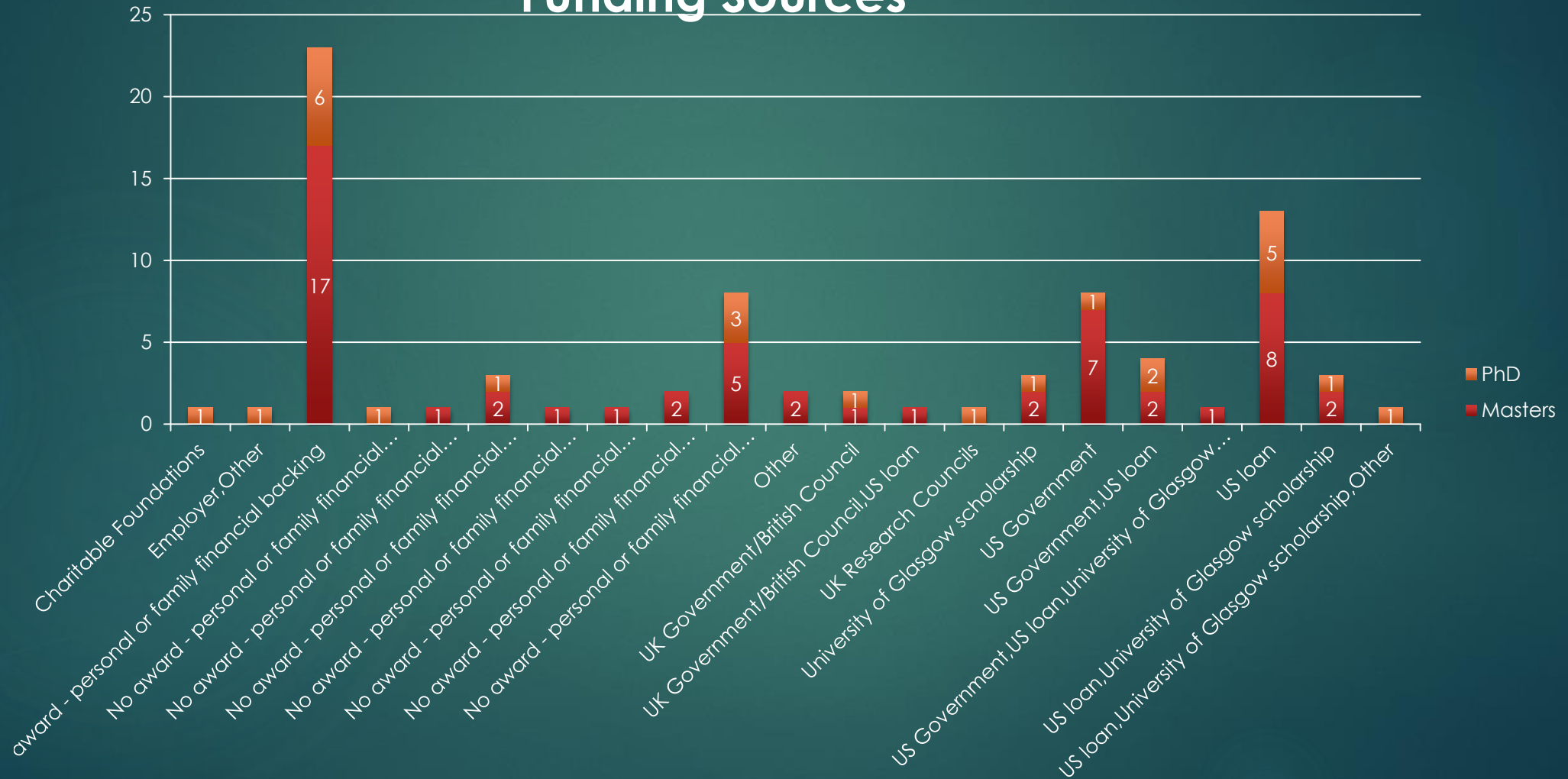
Analysis – Stats (Glasgow)

Overview

- Survey results from 81 postgraduate US students at the University of Glasgow
- 55 Master's Students and 26 PhD Students
- Results Demonstrate
 - With increased interest from US students in completing Masters programmes abroad, finding full funding has become more difficult.
 - Federal funding and savings support students completing Masters degrees

Analysis – Stats (Glasgow)

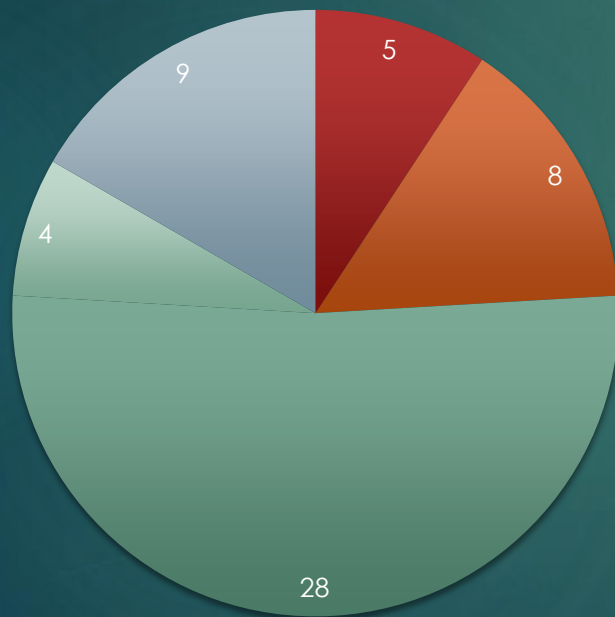
Funding Sources



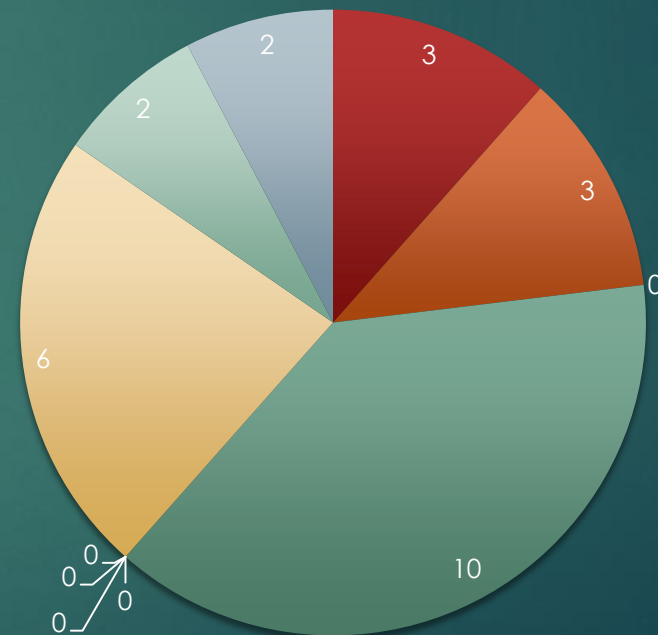
Analysis – Stats (Glasgow)

Research Funding – Searches

Masters



- Friends/Family
- Internet search
- Internet search, Friends/Family
- Internet search, University website
- Internet search, University website, British Council
- Internet search, University website, British Council, Friends/Family



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- Internet search
- Internet search, Friends/Family
- Internet search, University website
- Internet search, University website, British Council

Analysis – Stats (Glasgow)



Current US Student Advice

- “Ms. Carol Barnett is a great resource! Use her.”
- “There were relevant funded UK/EU doctoral programs but as a US citizen and not a permanent resident, I did not qualify. I acquired financing (\$50,000) for military service.”
- “I received an e-mail from the department listing scholarship options and I applied and won. I relied on US government loans to cover the difference.”

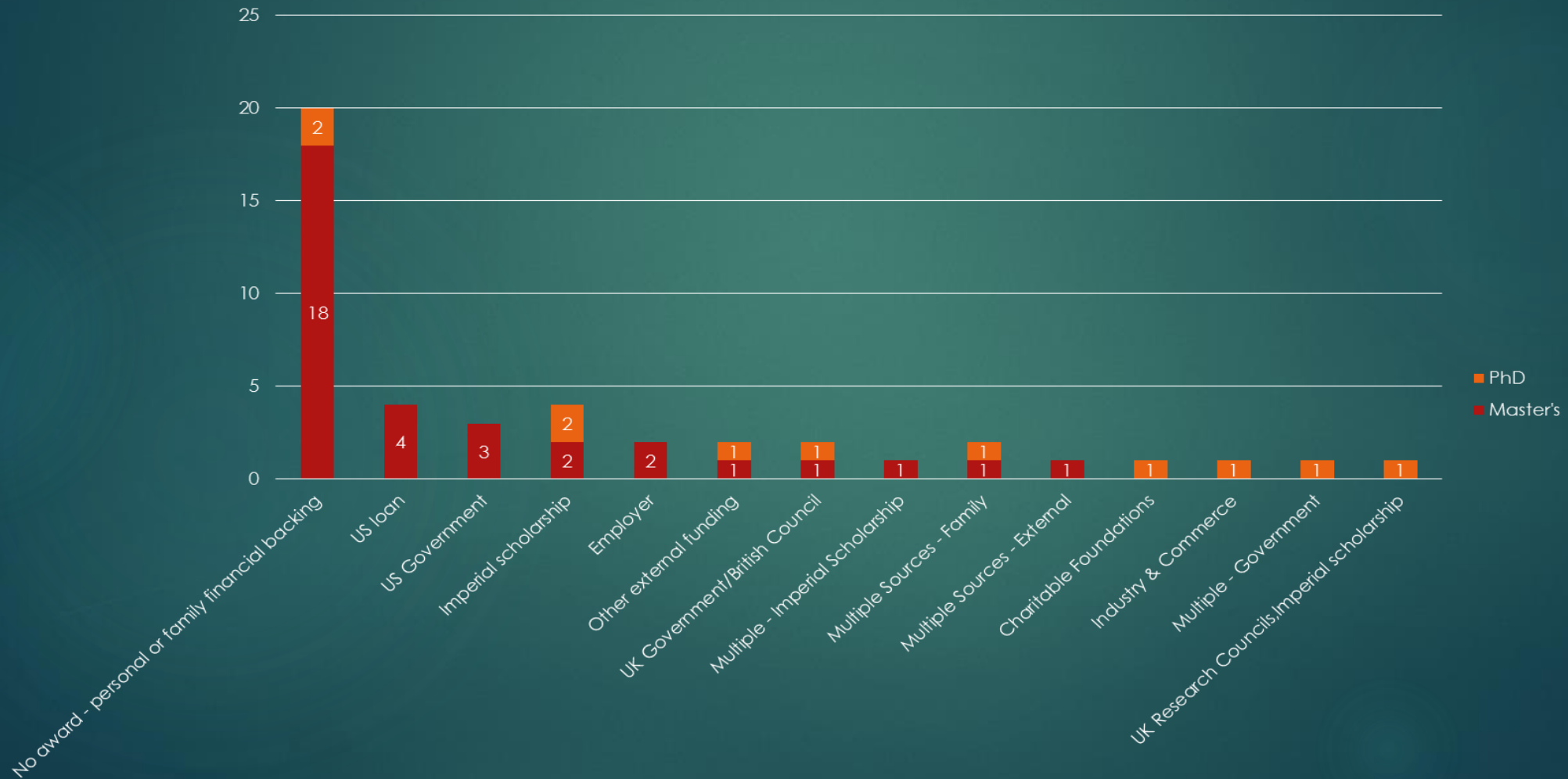
Analysis – Stats (Imperial)

Overview

- Survey results from 45 postgraduate US students at Imperial College
- 34 Master's Students and 11 PhD Students
- Results Demonstrate
 - There are numerous sources of funding prospective students look to in order to support their study in the UK
 - Students most commonly look to their family and the internet in researching potential funding for their studies in the UK

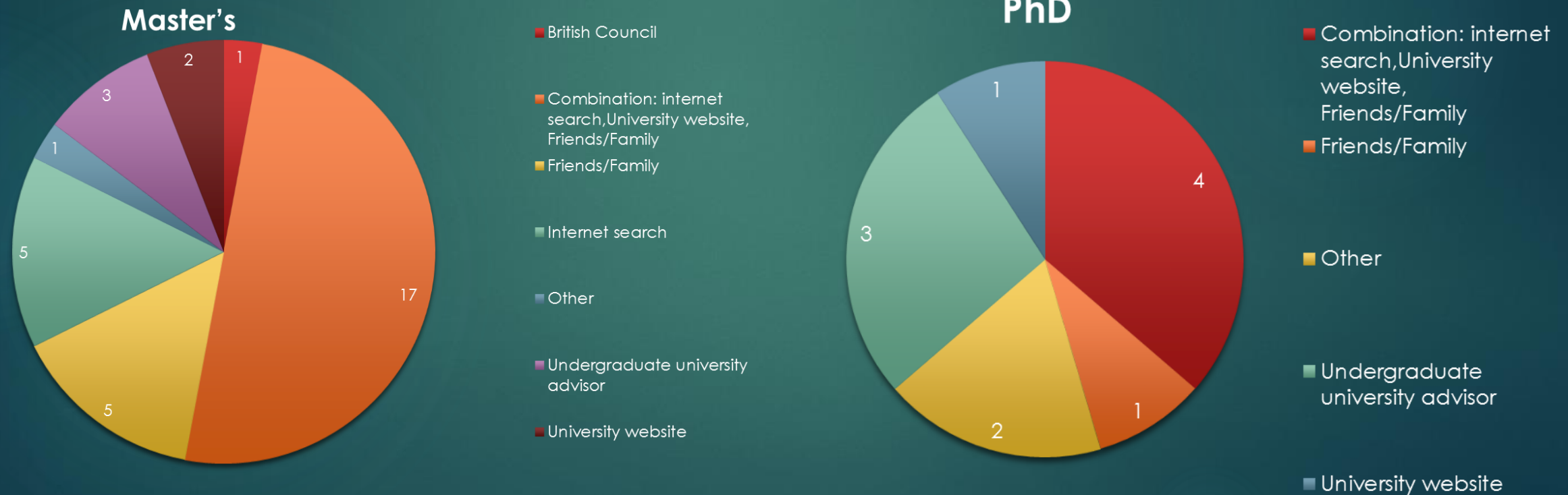
Analysis – Stats (Imperial)

Funding Sources

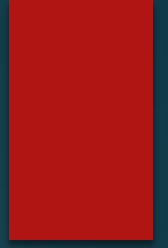


Analysis – Stats (Imperial)

Research Funding – Searches



Analysis – Stats (Imperial)



Current US Student Advice

- “Do your research early or you're options become limited and more expensive”
- “For applicants intending to do a PhD, contact a potential supervisor well in advance who is willing to suggest funding opportunities they know of and advocate for the student”
- “The best place to look for funding for studies abroad are the university and NGO/government websites”
- “Do research on how much it is going to cost you to live and go to school in London. It is difficult to go back and request further funding and you don't request more than you need. Work out a budget and submit it accurately the first time to the US federal loan site”

Community-Based Fundraising

- Heritage Groups that have interests in specific countries (i.e., Korean- American Society)
- Civic groups (Rotary, Kiwanis, and Lions Clubs, etc.)
- Foundations or Agencies
- Travel Agencies
- High School Alumni Associations
- Professional and Business Associations
- Media (newspapers, magazines, T.V., and radio)
- Sororities and Fraternities (local and national chapters)
- Charitable, Ethnic, Religious, and Campus Organizations



Alternative Guide to PG Funding

Database for current and prospective postgraduate students (any subject, any nationality) who are looking to fund PhD, Masters, and PGCE study in the UK through grants from charities, trusts, and foundations!

Pay service or many universities have bought a license and will give applicants free access

Crowd Sourcing & Social Media

- Crowd sourcing platforms for funding your studies overseas:
 - www.fundmytravel.com
 - Scholar Match – for the Bay Area
 - GoFundMe
- Social media (facebook, twitter etc.) are increasingly used to promote scholarships and other sources of funding



Veterans & GI Bill

- Can use funding for overseas study
- Can use for blended learning with minimum in-class time
- Cannot use for online and distance learning programs

Financial Aid

Resources

- <http://FAFSA.ed.gov>
- <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/>
- <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/resources#funding>
- Institutional Student Funding Offices

NB No Work-Study

Working while abroad

- Part time jobs

Tier 4 visa – 20 hours per week during term-time, full-time during vacations.

Up to students to manage study/work balance

Limited availability on campus

Careers Services

- Paid internships

All student/Tier 4 student visa holders are permitted to undertake an internship during the Christmas and Easter holidays.

MSc students can only complete internships in the summer if not spend more than 50% of the time on their course doing a work placement. Summer placements are only possible if the internship is assessed as part of the course

Internships offices



Brainstorm

What methods have your students used to raise funds?

What service organizations are represented in your community or campus that have graduate funding?

Contact US

Alex Craik, UCL: a.craik@ucl.ac.uk

Joey Kirk, University of Glasgow: Joey.Kirk@glasgow.ac.uk

Ciaran Moynihan, Imperial College London: c.moynihan@imperial.ac.uk

Alicia Hayes, UC Berkeley: akhayes@berkeley.edu

Mary Denyer, Marshall Aid Commission: m.denyer@acu.ac.uk